

HOUSE BILL 7

C7

3lr3554

By: **Delegate Smigiel**

Introduced and read first time: August 10, 2012

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Table Games – Video Lottery Facilities – Transportation Trust Fund**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that the State may authorize the holder of a video
4 lottery operation license to offer table games in the State; specifying the type of
5 table games that may be authorized in the State; authorizing the State Lottery
6 Commission to determine the suitability of certain table games under certain
7 circumstances; requiring that a certain percentage of the proceeds from table
8 games be paid to license holders and a certain percentage to the Transportation
9 Trust Fund for certain purposes; requiring certain legislation under certain
10 circumstances; submitting certain provisions of this Act to a referendum of the
11 qualified voters of the State; providing for the effective dates of this Act; and
12 generally relating to authorization of additional forms or expansion of
13 commercial gaming in the State.

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 MARYLAND, That:

16 (a) The State may authorize a holder of a video lottery operation license
17 under Article XIX of the Maryland Constitution to offer table games to the public in
18 the State.

19 (b) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, table games authorized under
20 subsection (a) of this section may include:

21 (1) roulette, baccarat, blackjack, craps, big six wheel, minibaccarat,
22 poker, pai gow poker, and sic bo, or any variation and composites of such games; and

23 (2) gaming tournaments in which players compete against one another
24 in one or more of the games authorized under item (1) of this subsection.

25 (c) The State Lottery Commission may determine the suitability of:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (1) the use of any variations or composites of the table games
2 authorized under subsection (b) of this section after an appropriate test or
3 experimental period under terms and conditions that the Commission may deem
4 appropriate; and

5 (2) any other game that is compatible with the public interest and
6 suitable for casino use after an appropriate test or experimental period deemed
7 appropriate by the Commission.

8 (d) On a properly approved transmittal prepared by the State Lottery
9 Commission, the Comptroller shall pay 80% of the proceeds of table games at each
10 video lottery facility to the holder of the video lottery operation license and 20% to the
11 Transportation Trust Fund to improve roads and bridges and meet other
12 infrastructure needs.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the provisions of Section
14 1 of this Act authorize a video lottery operation licensee to offer table games in the
15 State, subject to a referendum of the qualified voters of Maryland as provided in
16 Section 3 of this Act, and upon voter approval of this Act at the general election to be
17 held in November of 2012, legislation shall be required to provide for the operation,
18 regulation, and disposition of proceeds of table games at a licensed video lottery
19 facility in the State.

20 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That before Section 1 of this
21 Act, which authorizes additional forms or expansion of commercial gaming, becomes
22 effective it shall first be submitted to a referendum of the qualified voters of the State
23 at the general election to be held in November of 2012, in accordance with Article XIX,
24 § 1(e) of the Maryland Constitution. The State Board of Elections shall do those things
25 necessary and proper to provide for and hold the referendum required by this section.
26 If a majority of the votes cast on the question are "For the additional forms and
27 expansion of commercial gaming", Section 1 of this Act shall become effective on the
28 30th day following the official canvass of votes for the referendum, but if a majority of
29 the votes cast on the question are "Against the additional forms and expansion of
30 commercial gaming", Section 1 of this Act is of no effect and null and void.

31 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions
32 of Section 3 of this Act and for the sole purpose of providing for the referendum
33 required by Section 3 of this Act, this Act shall take effect August 15, 2012.

34 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as otherwise
35 provided in this Act, this Act shall take effect October 1, 2012.